

**In the Claims:**

The current status of all claims is listed below and supercedes all previous lists of claims.

1-16. (cancelled).

17. (currently Amended) A method of selecting ~~an effective~~ one or more antisense oligonucleotide ~~sequence~~ sequences for inhibition of expression of a preselected target nucleic acid comprising:

providing a set of antisense oligonucleotide sequences 12 to 25 nucleotides in length which are complementary to a the preselected target nucleic acid sequence;

eliminating from the set sequences comprising one or more negative predictor sequence motif comprising 5'-GGGG-3';

eliminating from the set sequences comprising one or more negative predictor sequence motif comprising 5'-GGA-3';

selecting an antisense oligonucleotide sequence from a set of antisense oligonucleotide sequences; from the set one or more sequence, each comprising one or more positive predictor sequence motif, comprising

wherein the selected antisense oligonucleotide sequence activity enhancing 5'-CCAC-3'; and sequence motif; and no activity decreasing 5'-GGGG-3' and 5'-GGA-3' sequence motifs synthesizing one or more test antisense oligonucleotides having a selected sequence.

Claims 18 – 39 (canceled)

40. (currently amended) The method of claim 39 17, wherein said test oligonucleotides are chimeric oligonucleotides.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the test oligonucleotides each have at least one 2'-substituted nucleotide.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 17, further comprising testing the test oligonucleotides in vitro for their ability to modulate the preselected target nucleic acid.